Ratio of investment under IRDP by Central and State Governments

*300. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the ratio of investment by Central Government and State Governments under IRDP during the current financial year;

(b) whether there is any difference in the ratio of investment made by different States; and

(c) if so, the reason therefor and steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) The Integrated Rural Development Programme (and other erstwhile self-employment schemes) have been merged into a single comprehensive programme viz. the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) during the current financial year, 1999-2000. The funding of SGSY is shared on 75:25 basis between the Centre and the States.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Upgradation of Posts in AFHQ

2134. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fifth Central Pay Commission had recommended upgradation of 37 per cent posts of Principal Private Secretaries to the level of Senior Principal Private Secretaries in the AFHQ;

(b) if **so,** whether all the posts involved have been upgraded so far;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the likely time by when these posts will be upgraded?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) In line with the recommendations made by the Fifth Central Pay Commission and in conformity with the instructions of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pension, seven posts of Principal Private Sectretary have been

upgraded to the grade of Senior Principal Private Secretary corresponding to the seven Secretary level appointments to which the Senior PPS could be posted. Orders to this effect have been issued on 19th January, 2000.

Suspension of IAF's daily mission

2135. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the IAF have, since long, suspended its daily mission to collect information about the Indian borders and that during the Kargil conflict also such missions remained suspended;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor, stating the period for which such IAF mission remained suspended; and

(c) whether such missions are being resumed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The reconnaissance missions of the Indian Air Force were never suspended.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Scrutinising Findings of CAG for post 1985 Defence purchases

2136. SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Defence has constituted a Special Group of Officers to scrutinise all important observations and findings of the Comptroller and Auditor General for the last fifteen years;

(b) whether it is for the purpose of fixing responsibility for lapses, delays, corrupt practices, talcing administrative, disciplinary and legal action and if not, for what purpose; and

(c) what is the time-frame stipulated for this scrutiny?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Though no specific time frame has been stipulated, the Group has already commenced scrutiny of the C&AG's Reports and will complete it in the shortest possible time.